

PROPOSAL F2003-17

Existing regulation: Definitions & Methods

§____.25(a) *Definitions* [No current definition of “Fish trap”]

§____.27(c) *Methods, means, and general restrictions*
(1) [Fish traps are not currently a legal method of take.]

Proposed regulation: Definitions & Methods

§____.25(a) *Definitions*
Fish trap means a structure made from small saplings and spruce roots with a conically shaped entrance tunnel that funnels fish into a larger basket. The structure cannot exceed 8 feet in length, 4 feet in width, and 2 feet in diameter.

§____.27(c) *Methods, means, and general restrictions*
(1) (xxi) ***A fish trap.***

Reason for changing the regulation: Fish traps were a customary and traditional means of harvesting freshwater fish in tributaries to the Copper River for the Ahtna people.

Effect of change on fish or shellfish populations: The freshwater permit requirement will allow the Federal Subsistence Board to set harvest limits and monitor harvests for individual water bodies. No harvest of salmon is permitted.

Effect of change on subsistence users: This change will provide additional opportunity for Federally qualified users to harvest freshwater fish in a way traditionally practiced by the Ahtna people.

Additional Information:

Proposed by: Copper River Native Association, Copper Center